



Information for parents of students in Year 9

Laptops for learning



All Year 9 students in NSW government schools will receive a Lenovo laptop starting from August 2009. This has been funded by the National Secondary School's Computer Fund component of the Federal Government's Digital Education Revolution.

All laptops will come with Microsoft and Adobe software, giving NSW students and teachers access to the largest and most comprehensive roll out of software in any education system worldwide. The Department of Education and Training is also investing in wireless networking and technical support for all secondary schools as well as professional learning for teachers.

Benefits

Laptops allow students to learn anytime, anywhere. The laptop weighs just over 1kg and fits easily into a school backpack.

Studies show the benefits of providing laptops to each student are:

- increased student motivation, engagement, interest,
- improved student organisation and improved self-directed learning,

- increased academic achievements and better work habits,
- improved communication and information skills.

Requirements

- Parents/carers and students will be required to sign a Laptop User Charter prior to issue of the laptop.
- To increase security, students will be asked to keep their laptops out of sight when travelling to and from school.
- The laptop can be used for school work at home – with or without internet access.
- Students will be able to access the Internet at home if there is Internet service at home. The Department's Internet filtering will work at home so students will not have access to inappropriate content.

- Students must charge their laptop overnight to ensure it is ready for each school day.
- Year 9 students may keep the laptop if they complete Year 12. Students who leave school or move out of the government school system must return their laptops.

Further information

Your school will provide information regarding requirements, ownership, damage or loss of laptops, laptop care and acceptable computer and internet use when the laptops are provided. The school can also provide advice on the best academic use of the laptop, safe internet use, copyright, plagiarism and ergonomics.